

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION- KISSINGER

KUWAIT DAILY, AL WATAN, IN ITS "SUNDAY TALK" COLUMN
OF DECEMBER 19, PUBLISHED WHAT PURPORTS TO BE A FIRST IN A
SERIES OF ARTICLES BY AHMAD BAHADIN CAPTIONED
"FAREWELL TO KISSINGER". BAHADIN AN EGYPTIAN, AND FORMER AHMAD
EDITOR, IS THE EDITOR IN CHIEF OF AL ARABI, KUWAIT MONTHLY
SAID TO HAVE THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY PUBLICATION
IN THE MIDDLE EAST. BAHADIN SKETCHES AN
INTIMATE PICTURE OF KISSINGER'S PERSONALITY AND
LIFE STYLE WHICH ADDS UP TO A FAVORABLE IMAGE OF
U.S. APPROACH TO MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS.

KISSINGER AS A STATESMAN:
BAHADIN SAYS, "KISSINGER HAS PLAYED AN UNFORGETTABLE
ROLE IN THE WORLD..." AND "BECAME THE STRONGEST U.S.
SECRETARY OF STATE...IN 200 YEARS..."

ON MIDDLE EAST
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BAHADIN CREDITS KISSINGER WITH BEING "UNBIASED..."
AND "SENSITIVE...", THAT HE "WAS RELUCTANT TO OPEN
UP THE FILE UNTIL CONFRONTED WITH THE OCTOBER WAR..."
WRITER QUOTES SOME EXCERPTS ON THIS SUBJECT FROM
SHEEHAN'S BOOK, ARABS, ISRAEL AND KISSINGER.
NOR DOES BAHADIN REFRAIN FROM COMMENTING UPON

WAYS IN WHICH ISRAEL TRIED TO PRESSURE KISSINGER.
BUT, WRITER OBSERVES, "ALTHOUGH KISSINGER CONCERNED
WITH ISRAELI SECURITY, HE SAW THAT SECURITY IN FORM
OF GOOD RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS, NOT IN AGGRESSION..."
ACCORDING TO BAHADIN, KISSINGER "USED TO TELL HIS
COLLEAGUES THAT THEY (ISRAELIS) ARE CRAZY. THEY DO
NOT SEE THE WORLD OUTSIDE OF ISRAEL. AMERICA WILL
NOT BE THEIRS FOREVER. SETTING UP COLONIES IN
OCCUPIED LANDS IS GRAVEST MISTAKE IN 2000 YEAR
HISTORY..."

ON PLO
BAHADIN ASSERTS "KISSINGER YIELDED TO ISRAELI
REQUEST NOT TO RECOGNIZE PLO..." ALTHOUGH HE
"YEARNED TO MEET A SPECIMEN OF THIS ARAB REVOLU-
TIONARY..."

ON UNDERSTANDING ARABS
BAHADIN HAS RESERVATIONS CONCERNING KISSINGER'S
TACTICS, NATURE OF ADVICE HE WAS RECEIVING
AND FEELS HE WAS SOMETIMES MISLED BY WESTERN
PRESS IN BELIEVING ARABS ADMIRE A MAN SUCCESS-
FUL WITH WOMEN. WRITER SHOWS DISTASTE OVER
KISSINGER "THROWING OUT SEXY JOKES WHICH WERE
OFTEN MET WITH COLDNESS AND ASTONISHMENT..."

KEYS TO KISSINGER
BAHADIN CONCLUDE ARTICLE BY NOTING IT IS
LIMITED TO "GLIMPSES...ABOUT KISSINGER'S PER-
SONALITY..." TWO OTHER "BASIC KEY..." TO
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KISSINGER ARE HIS "PESSIMISTIC VIEW OF HISTORY..."
AND "EFFECTS OF METTERNICH ON KISSINGER..." IT
IS LIKELY THESE FACTORS WILL BE BASIS FOR ADDITIONAL
ARTICLES.
BATOR

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